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Photographic Intelligence Memorandum

FRANZ JOSEPH LAND

**Declass Review  
by NIMA/DOD**



HTA/SM-5/58

15 August 1958

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

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FRANZ JOSEPH LAND

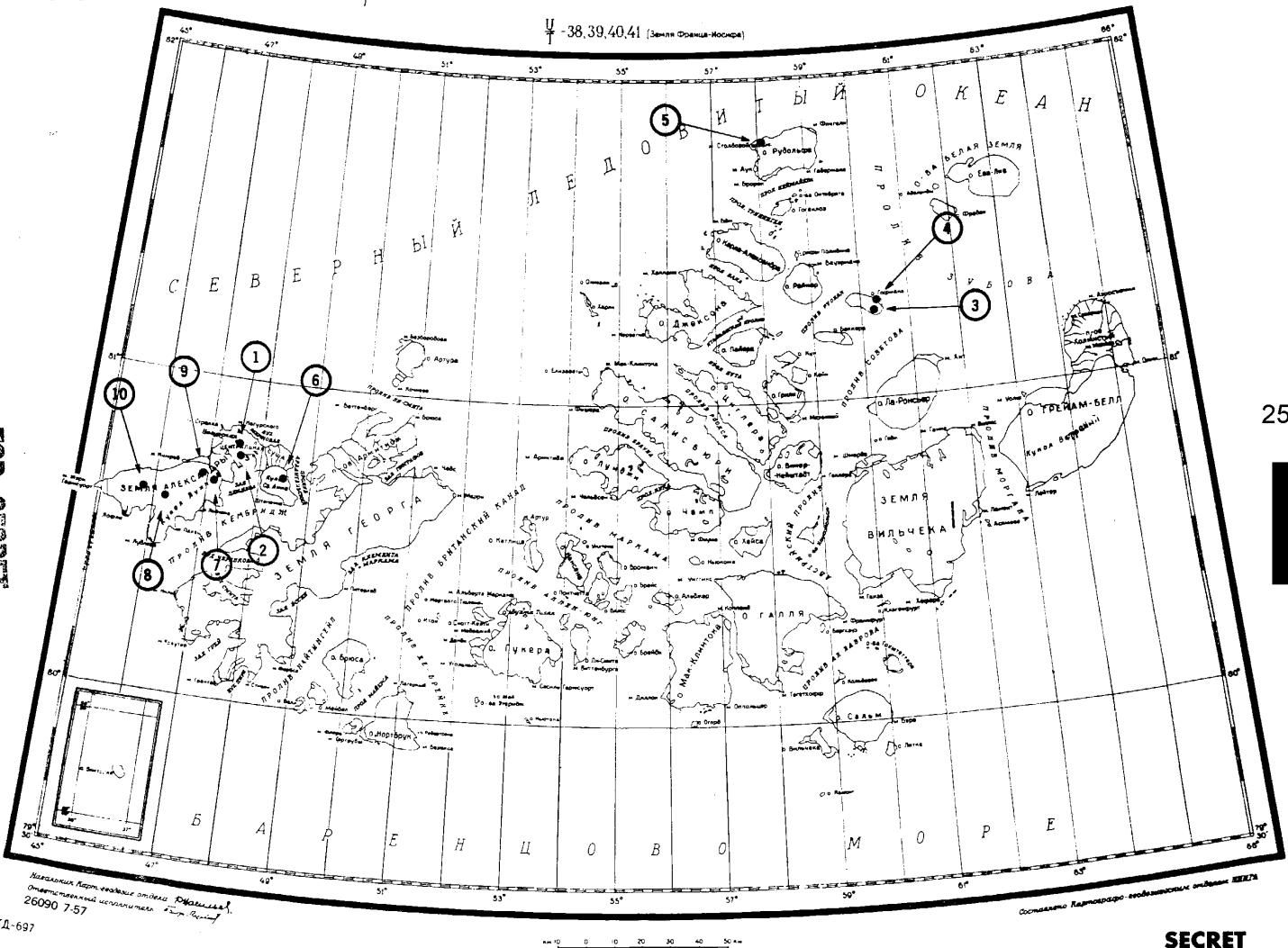
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ZEMLYA FRANTSIA-IOSIFA

U -38,39,40,41 (Земля Франца-Иосифа)



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## FRANZ JOSEPH LAND

Franz Joseph Land is comprised of about 70 islands which are located in the Arctic Ocean 250 miles north of Novaya Zemlya. These ice covered islands are the most northerly lands of the eastern hemisphere and are scattered in an area roughly 250 miles east-west by 150 miles north-south.

The most westerly island is Zemly Aleksandry on which is located an airfield, two polar stations and four unidentified towers. Ostrov Gofmana, located in the northeast sector of the island group, also has an airfield and a polar station. The northernmost island is Ostrov Rudolfa on which is located an air navigation directional finding station.

Franz Joseph Land was completely covered by photography on

A detailed

study of the photography indicated that the only activity on Franz Joseph Land is in the ten areas which are annotated on the accompanying map and described in the key to annotations.

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KEY TO ANNOTATIONS

1. NAGURSKAYA AIRFIELD (80° 48'N - 47° 24'E)  
Zemlya Aleksandry.  
Runway: 6000' x 150'; packed snow and ice.  
No aircraft noted.  
See SAC DPIR No. S266, dated 8 Nov. 1957  
and DPIR Airfields A, No. 37, dated Dec. 1956  
for a detailed description of the airfield.
2. NAGURSKAYA POLAR STATION (80° 46'N - 47° 26'E)  
Zemlya Aleksandry.  
Four buildings as follows:  
    (1) building 45' x 40'  
    (2) buildings 30' x 25'  
    (1) building 35' x 30'  
A few small shelters are evident.  
One small single engine liaison type aircraft visible.
3. GOGMANA AIRFIELD (81° 16'N - 60° 20'E)  
Ostrov Gofmana.  
Runway: 11,900' x 490'; packed snow and ice.  
No aircraft noted.  
See SAC DPIR No. SP-3-57, dated 31 Dec. 1957  
DPIR Airfields A, No. 33, dated Dec. 1956 for  
a detailed description of the airfield.
4. GOFMANA POLAR STATION (81° 18'N - 60° 22'E)  
Ostrov Gofmana.  
Six (6) buildings as follows:  
    (3) buildings each 50' x 15'  
    (1) building 50' x 30'  
    (1) building 40' x 35'  
    (1) building 40' x 15'  
Several other smaller shelters.  
One helicopter visible.  
One stick mast approximately 55' high.

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5. PROBABLE AIR NAVIGATION DIRECTIONAL FINDING STATION  
(81° 49'N - 58° 00'E)

Ostrov Rudolfa.

Probable Air Navigation Directional Finding Station.

This facility consists of 32 approximately 15' stick masts which are arranged in a 240' diameter circle with a control building in the center. A 55' stick is also contained within the circle. Located at opposite sides of the circle are two other stick masts of approximately 65' - 70'. Within the station area are three shorter stick masts of approximately 25' - 30'. One radar and one possible radar are evident. Fourteen buildings located in an area 1000' x 1000' as follows:

- (1) building 70' x 25'
- (1) building 70' x 20'
- (1) building 60' x 25'
- (2) buildings 45' x 40'
- (1) building 40' x 25' (control building for Directional Finding Station)
- (1) building 30' x 25'
- (2) buildings 30' x 20'
- (2) buildings 25' x 25'
- (2) buildings 25' x 20'
- (1) building 20' x 20'

6. POLAR STATION (80° 42'N - 48° 30'E)

Zemlya Aleksandry.

Three small buildings and a few smaller shelters are evident and partially buried in snow. A communication tower base 600 yards from the station does not appear to hold an antenna and no other activity is apparent in the station area.

- 7. Tower, unidentified, 20' high (80° 43'N - 47° 06'E) Zemlya Aleksandry.
- 8. Tower, unidentified, 15' high (80° 37'N - 46° 08'E) Zemlya Aleksandry.
- 9. Tower, unidentified, 20' high (80° 44'N - 46° 51'E) Zemlya Aleksandry.
- 10. Tower, unidentified, 15' high (80° 38'N - 45° 43'E) Zemlya Aleksandry.

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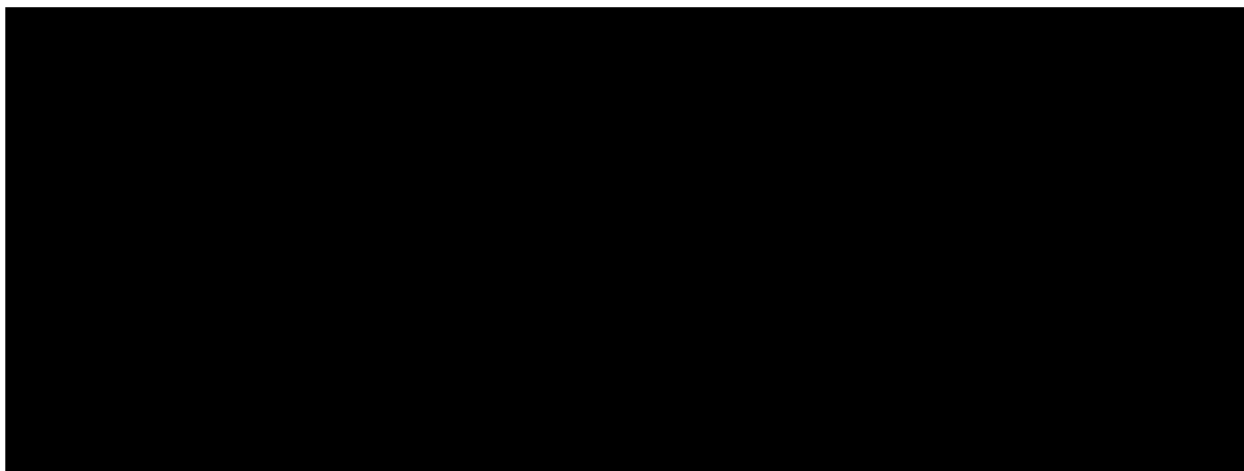
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**REQUIREMENT:** Prepared in answer to RR/HTA/S14/58 requesting an analysis and description of all activities and facilities on the islands of Franz Joseph Land.

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**PHOTO DATA:**



**REFERENCES:** SAC DPIR No. S266, dated 8 Nov. 1947. TSW  
SAC DPIR No. SP-3-57, dated 31 Dec. 1957. TSW  
DPIR Airfields A, No. 37, dated Dec. 1956. TSW  
DPIR Airfields A, No. 33, dated Dec. 1956. TSW  
ATMP 11 C, 1st Ed., dated Nov 1954  
ATMP 11 D, 1st ED. Revised, dated May 1954

**COORDINATES:** 79° 54'N to 81° 50'N  
44° 00'E to 66° 00'E

**B.E. NUMBER:** [REDACTED] Nagurskaya Airfield  
[REDACTED] Gofmana Airfield

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